



Veterinary Research Facility in Kharkiv Ongoing Target for Russian Misinformation, Other Potential Operations

The Institute of Experimental and Clinical Veterinary Medicine (IECVM) in Kharkiv probably houses at least some dangerous pathogens and almost certainly remains vulnerable to long-standing Russian information operations, seizure or damage. The Institute—which was founded in the 1920s and may have had Soviet biological warfare (BW) ties—specializes in veterinary medicine, virology, and toxicology.

according to military reporting and Ukrainian documentation

- IECVM may have directly or indirectly supported Soviet BW efforts. IECVM focused research on diagnostics and vaccines, and had already destroyed
- As of the early 2010s, IECVM held hundreds of pathogens and was one of over forty Ukrainian-owned and operated laboratories that received assistance under DOD's Biological Threat Reduction Program, according to publicly-available information and reporting. Although the facility had updated some areas with modern equipment and infrastructure, IECVM as recently as 2019 had at least some biosafety and biosecurity deficiencies—most notably in rooms handling contagious *Brucella* bacteria—according to reporting.
- We are working to better understand the current status of pathogens and biosafety conditions at IECVM and other Ukrainian laboratories because recent reporting suggests that laboratories were ordered to destroy holdings after Russia's invasion. IECVM

IC Analysis: Concerns with CTR Supported Labs in Ukraine

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- Russia accused the U.S. of BW work in a basement lab in the facility

anthrax bacteria, *Brucella* bacteria,

IECVM almost certainly will remain a target of Russian information operations—particularly narratives that focus on IECVM's zoonotic pathogen work—and will be vulnerable to potential Russian damage or seizure.

information from 2012 indicates that at least IECVM's virology building has a basement level.



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(U// [REDACTED]) Ukraine: Over 40 Labs Built and Supported

- Storage of BW Pathogens from Soviet Era
- U.S. training for Ukrainian scientists to work in biocontainment
- “Especially Dangerous Pathogen (EDP) Certification”
- Repository of BW and disease causing pathogens:

➤ *Anthrax, tularemia, tuberculosis, Swine Fever, New Castles Disease, MERS, SARS, Marburg, Ebola, Lassa, the Plague, Rickettsia, etc*





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(U// [REDACTED]) Example Information: U.S. Built The Following Labs in Ukraine

Lab Name	USG Investment	Contractor Team	Especially Dangerous Pathogen (EDP) Permit
Kherson Diagnostic Laboratory Kherson Oblast Laboratory Center	Total cost of laboratory: USD\$1,728,822 (USD\$1,285,845 for Design & Construction; USD\$442,977 for lab equipment and furniture)	Integrating Contractor: Black & Veatch. Ukrainian Subcontractors: Techno Project (Designer) & Macrochem (Construction & Equipment supply).	Permit for working with Pathogens is listed as "in progress" on the Ukraine Embassy website.
Institute of Veterinary Medicine of the National Academy of Agrarian Sciences	Total cost of laboratory: \$2,109,375.23 USD (\$1,217,164 for design and construction and \$762,134 for equipment and furniture)	Black & Veatch. Ukrainian Subcontractors: Project Technichniy Center (Designer) & Mediamax (Construction & Equipment supply).	Permit for working with Pathogens is listed as "in progress" on the Ukraine Embassy website.
Central Reference Laboratory (CRL) Ukrainian Research Antiplague Institute (URAPI)	Total cost of laboratory: USD\$3,492,551 (USD\$613,477 for Construction; USD\$2,059,014 for lab equipment and furniture).	Black & Veatch. Ukrainian Subcontractors: - Odessa Invest (Designer) & Macrochem (Construction & Equipment supply).	The permit for working with Pathogens was issued by the Regime Commission of MoH on September 13, 2010.
Zakarpatska Diagnostic Laboratory Zakarpatska Oblast Laboratory Center	Total cost of laboratory: USD\$1,920,432 (USD\$1,516,354 for Design & Construction; USD\$404,078 for lab equipment and furniture)	Black & Veatch. Ukrainian Subcontractors: - Ekzotika LTD- Uzhgorod (Designer) & RK-Center (Construction) & Mediamax (Equipment supply).	The permit for working with Pathogens was issued by Regime Commission of MoH on March 02, 2012.

Central Reference Laboratory (CRL) Ukrainian Research Antiplague Institute (URAPI) 2/4 Tserkovnaya St., Odessa

Fact Sheet

Technical Assistance Project - Technical Assistance Plan for designated recipients of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine. Registration card #2225-04 dated 21.05.2012.

Donor – the Department of Defense of the United States of America

Beneficiary/Executive Agent - the Ministry of Health of Ukraine

Recipient – Ukrainian Research Anti-Plague Institute

Address: 2/4, Tserkovnaya Str., Odessa

POC: Dr. Sergiy Vasylovych Pozdnyakov, Director

Contractor Team - Integrating Contractor: Black & Veatch. Ukrainian Subcontractors: - Odessa Invest (Designer) & Macrochem (Construction & Equipment supply).

Design Oversight (Avtonadzor) - ARB Architectural & Restoration Bureau, Odessa – Golubov, G.P.

Construction Oversight (Technadzor) – Zarosynskyi, O.D

Expert Examination of Design Approval - The Working Design was approved by the Regime Commission of MoH on September 23, 2008 and confirmed by Odessa Oblast SES on December 30, 2009. The Working Design was approved by Odessa "Ukrbudderzhexpertise" on January 19, 2009.

Construction permit - The Construction Permit was signed by GASK (State Architectural Construction Inspection in Odessa oblast) on January 30, 2009

State Acceptance - "Construction Acceptance Act" was signed by Dr. Sergiy Vasylovych Pozdnyakov, Director, on September 30, 2009. Building Certificate Compliance was signed by GASK (State Architectural Construction Inspection in Odessa oblast) on September 30, 2009.

Transfer of Custody and Sustainment Memorandum of Understanding - The TOC and MoU were signed by Dr. Sergiy Vasylovych Pozdnyakov, Director, on February 18, 2010.

EDPs Permit - The permit for working with Pathogens was issued by the Regime Commission of MoH on September 13, 2010.

USG Investment - Total cost of laboratory: **USD\$3,492,551** (USD\$613,477 for Construction; USD\$2,059,014 for lab equipment and furniture).



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(U) Ukraine Labs: Web of Connections to U.S. BW Defense Industry

BTRP TO 04 Ukraine Phase IIb – Country Science Plan
CDRL A017, Rev. 06 / June 2019

Figure 1. Sampling of Ukrainian Scientific Collaborator Network



Table 2. TAPs: Status

Project Designation	Project Title	Planned	Ongoing	Completed	Not Pursued
T01 Human TAP-1	Implementation of Cell Culture and Nucleic Acid Sequencing Capabilities at the Ukrainian Research and Anti-Plague Institute (URAPI) in Order to Foster and Improve Viral Diagnostics				✓
T01 Veterinary TAP-2	Development and Use of the Express Method for Avian Influenza Virus (AIV) Diagnostics Based on Reverse Transcription-Loop-Mediated Isothermal Amplification (RT-LAMP)			✓	
T01 Veterinary TAP-3	Analysis of the Threat of Spread of African Swine Fever (ASF) and Classical Swine Fever (CSF) in Wild Boar Populations in Ukraine			✓	
T04 Veterinary TAP-1	Molecular Characterization of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Virus (HPAIV) and Virulent Newcastle Disease Virus (VNDV) Isolated in Ukraine			✓	
T04 Veterinary TAP-2	Serological Monitoring of Glanders in Ukraine and Evaluation of Serological Methods for Laboratory Diagnosis of Glanders			✓	
T04 Veterinary TAP-3	Analysis and Review of Ukrainian Legislation and Guidelines for Veterinary Laboratory Diagnostics Quality Assurance, Biological Safety, and Biological Security for Specified EDPs, with the Aim of Identifying Potential Enhancements to the Veterinary System of Ukraine			✓	
T04 Veterinary TAP-4	Community Outreach to Support Understanding of ASF Ecology and Epidemiology in Eastern Europe: Training and Implementation for Methods and Strategies for Control and Prevention			✓	
T04 Veterinary TAP-5	Grantsmanship in Action: Development and Submission of a National Science Foundation (NSF) Grant Application for Avian Influenza Research in Ukraine		SWM-P		
T04 Veterinary TAP-6	Analysis of the threat of spread of African swine fever and classical swine fever in wild boar populations in Ukraine: Improving diagnosis, surveillance, and prevention			✓	

(U) The U.S. paid Ukrainian scientist to study the genome of highly pathogenic avian flu and other highly infectious viruses in biocontainment labs, which were also paid for by the U.S. government.